GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:853
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2002
HIGHER RATES IN KENDRIYA BHANDAR
PRABHUNATH SINGH;RAGHUNATH JHA

Will the Minister of PERSONNEL,PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a cartel of suppliers operating in the Kendriya Bhandar in the supply of pulses, rice and grocery items are evading competition in prices and quality of goods;

(b) if so, the reasons for purchasing the items from cartel and not by means of either open tender system or directly from the wholesale market;

(c) whether the Government proposal to order an investigation into the cartelisation and purchases through them;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINIS PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND M OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE. (SMT.VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a)&(b): There is no cartel of suppliers operating in the Kendriya Bhandar in the supply of pulses, rice and grocery items. Kendriya Bhandar procure pulses, rice and grocery items through registered suppliers (25 in numbers) strictly in accordance with the purchase/procurement policy approved by the Board of Directors of Kendriya Bhandar. As perthe purchase policy fortnightly tenders are invited along with samples of goods from public sector cooperatives and registered suppliers having pulses licence, Agmark licence and food grain licence. The goods conforming to the specifications of Kendriya Bhandar which comply with the requirement of PFA/Agmark Specification are only procured. Keen competition is created among the suppliers with regard to prices and quality of goods.

(c),(d)&(e): In view of `a` & `b` above, there is no need for investigation.